



SUPERINTENDENT'S NEWSLETTER

Woodbridge Township School District, 428 School St, Woodbridge, NJ 07095
732.602.8472

Welcome Back

By Robert Zega

On behalf of the central administration and the Woodbridge Township Board of Education it is a pleasure to welcome everyone back to the 2015-2016 school year—the best year yet!

Despite the heat the first few days of school, we felt that our opening went well. I fielded several calls regarding the heat in the classrooms, but overall I think we made the right decision staying in school the entire day. Please realize that our calendar is “front loaded” in that we tried to get in as many instructional days before AP, SAT and ACT testing. By minimizing the number of holidays and moving the start date up to the earliest possible, our students receive the most time in the classroom before the tests listed above.

Over the summer the Woodbridge Township Board of Education and the Woodbridge Township municipality finished up a great deal of construction/renovation at our schools. These upgrades are listed later in this issue. It is our goal to complete our long-term goal of replacing every door, window, roof and boiler in each building; we are nearing that goal.

Our Board of Education also adopted new attendance regulations for middle and elementary school students. Your principals will be highlighting these regulations at open houses. Please read through these if you have children in middle or elementary school. These policies and regulations are posted on our district website at: http://www.woodbridge.k12.nj.us/cms/lib010/NJ01913008/Centricity/Domain/4/5113a_Administrative_Attendance_MS_ES.pdf

On our website you will also notice district goals. The administration has once again set goals for the district for the 2015-2016 school

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year. We hope you get a chance to look at these goals. When we are successful in reaching all these goals, we will have had a great school year. I will also be reviewing the district goals from last year later in this issue.

This is going to be an exciting school year. We have new courses, new instructional material, new technology and most important, a renewed commitment to our children. We will remain true to our core beliefs to provide positive educational experiences, to help our kids, to effectively engage students with great teachers to raise achievement and to give our children what they need. By doing this, we will have the best year yet!

Finally, I will try to keep everyone informed more efficiently by using my Twitter account—yes I have joined the Twitter universe! Please follow me at: @ZegaRobert.



Construction Updates

As part of our historic joint effort between Mayor McCormac, the Woodbridge Town Council and the Woodbridge Township Board of Education, our schools facilities have undergone major upgrades. These upgrades include:

Woodbridge HS concession stand: **COMPLETE**
Woodbridge MS parking lot: **COMPLETE**
IMS parking lot paving: **COMPLETE**
Colonia HS field house: under construction
Colonia HS concession stand: **COMPLETE**
Colonia HS paving: **COMPLETE**
JFK HS concession stand: **COMPLETE**
Avenel MS athletic fields: **COMPLETE**
Avenel Middle School parking lot: **COMPLETE**
JFK HS paving: **COMPLETE**
WHS & CHS running track repainting: **COMPLETE**
AMS, CMS, FMS, IMS gym bleachers: UNDER CONSTRUCTION
AMS, FMS, IMS, WMS gym scoreboards: UNDER CONSTRUCTION
AMS, CMS, FMS, IMS, WMS gym dividers: UNDER CONSTRUCTION
Colonia HS baseball scoreboard: UNDER CONSTRUCTION
Colonia HS & Woodbridge HS softball scoreboards: UNDER CONSTRUCTION
JFK baseball & softball scoreboards: UNDER CONSTRUCTION
Colonia HS greenhouse: UNDER CONSTRUCTION

In order to carry a positive action we must develop here a positive vision.

Dalai Lama

Board of Education Construction Update

In addition to the upgrades funded by the Township, the Board of Education has also financed a substantial amount of projects. The updates are below:

District-Wide fire door replacement: under construction
District-Wide fiber upgrades: under construction
Woodbine Ave #23 wireless clock replacement: **COMPLETE**
Matthew Jago #28 wireless clock replacement: **COMPLETE**
Avenel MS locker replacement: under construction
Colonia MS locker replacement: under construction
Fords MS locker replacement: under construction
Iselin MS locker replacement: under construction
JFK HS locker replacement: under construction
Colonia HS locker replacement: under construction
Woodbridge HS locker replacement: under construction
Pennsylvania Ave #27 concrete sidewalks: **COMPLETE**
Claremont Avenue #20 concrete sidewalk: **COMPLETE**
Colonia HS wrestling/dance room: **COMPLETE**
Woodbridge HS wrestling/dance room: under construction
Iselin MS floor: **COMPLETE**
Indiana Ave #18 Library conversion: under construction
Avenel St #4&5 boiler replacement: under construction*
Ross St #11 boiler replacement: under construction*
Indiana Ave #18 boiler replacement: under construction*
Oak Ridge Heights #21 boiler replacement: under construction*
Lynn Crest #22 boiler replacement: under construction*
Matthew Jago #28 boiler replacement: under construction*
Colonia MS boiler replacement: under construction*
Woodbridge MS boiler replacement: under construction*
Colonia HS boiler replacement: under construction*
JFK HS boiler replacement: under construction*
Woodbridge HS cafeteria floors: **COMPLETE**

*All boilers to be completed by early October

You can't make positive choices for the rest of your life without an environment that makes those choices easy, natural, and enjoyable.

Deepak Chopra



New boilers installed at our schools



New fire doors at Woodbridge HS



New paving at Colonia HS



New parking lot at Avenel MS

Goal Review
Woodbridge Township School District Goals 2014-2015

- 1) All teachers successfully complete their SGO's. *An overwhelming majority successfully completed*
- 2) All administrators successfully complete their administrator goals. *An overwhelming majority successfully completed*
- 3) Increase participation and performance on HS tests:
 - a. *Increase the number of HS students who score a "3" or higher on AP tests. Increased by 10%*
 - b. *Increase the number of HS students who score a 1500 or higher on the SAT. Remained stable*
 - c. *Increase the number of HS students who score a 21 or higher on the ACT. 55 scores of 21 or higher in 2014, 61 scores of 21 or higher in 2015. Over 10% increase with limited participation*
- 4) Decrease the number of failing grades district-wide. *We have decreased the number of failing grades but not to the extent we would like to*
- 5) Maximize the number of students who gain acceptance to their first choice college. *This is difficult to gather data for but we are making strides*
- 6) Successfully integrate the use of technology into daily instruction. *We are making great progress in this area. All teachers have a chromebook or iPad to enhance instruction & engage students*
- 7) Complete construction projects. *Working on this daily*
- 8) Cultivate alternate revenue sources for the district. *We have not done as much in this area but we have made great strides in reducing costs in many areas*
- 9) Increase home-school communication and interaction. *Our new websites and twitter accounts seem to be effective*
- 10) Develop more technology-driven curricula, especially iTunes University and STEM courses. *We are very excited about our new STEM & iTunes courses*
- 11) Utilize technology to allow schools to collaborate with other schools. *Working on this one*
- 12) Increase student participation in local community service events. *We are proud of our student participation in community service*
- 13) Increase opportunities for students who do not plan on attending college. *Our Career Fair has offered options for students not attending college*

District Goals 2015-2016

- 1) Increase participation and performance on HS tests:
 - a. Increase the number of HS students who score a “3” or higher on AP tests.
 - b. Increase the number of HS students who score a 1500 or higher (or 1000 on the redesigned SAT commencing in March 2016) on the SAT.
 - c. Increase the number of HS students who score a 21 or higher on the ACT.
- 2) Ensure that all of our students are performing at grade level.
- 3) Decrease the number of failing grades district-wide.
- 4) Maximize the number of students who gain acceptance to their first choice college.
- 5) Successfully integrate the use of technology into daily instruction.
- 6) Cultivate alternate revenue sources for the district.
- 7) Increase home-school communication and interaction.
- 8) Develop more technology-driven curricula, especially iTunes University and STEM courses.
- 9) Increase student participation in local community service events.
- 10) Increase opportunities for students who do not plan on attending college.
- 11) Increase professional development opportunities for teachers.
- 12) Increase student participation in dual-enrollment courses.

Correction does much, but encouragement does more.

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

The Woodbridge Township Athletic Alumni Association Hall of Fame Induction Dinner was held on Thursday night, September 17, at the Woodbridge Community Center. The new inductees included:

From Colonia High School:

1. Twana Allen, class of 1992, Track and Field
2. Gary Battle, class of 1987, Basketball
3. Coach Tom Chmiel, Girls Basketball
4. Dr. Martine Gubernat, class of 1980, Track and Field
5. Mike Helman, class of 1973, Baseball
6. Judy Martino, class of 1983, Softball
7. Coach Ken Pace Sr., Boys Basketball
8. Michael Payne, class of 1980, Football and Basketball
9. William A. "Tony" Payne, class of 1984, Basketball
10. Tina Sabunas, class of 1992, Softball
11. Karen Youngman, class of 1980, Softball

From John F. Kennedy Memorial High School:

1. Ron Allen, class of 1987, Football, Track and Field
2. James Anderson, class of 1984, Football, Basketball, Track and Field
3. Courtney Burton, class of 1990, Football, Basketball, Track and Field
4. Maureen (Clancy) Harshman, class of 1981, Tennis, Basketball, Softball
5. Lisa Da Cruz, class of 1983, Basketball, Softball
6. Jennifer (Egan) Bjorndahl, class of 1993, Tennis, Basketball, Softball
7. Kathleen (Flanagan) Colon, class of 1988, Softball
8. Jeff Kipila, class of 1983, Football, Baseball
9. Coach Ray Newman, Boys basketball
10. Christine Stuppi, class of 1986, Tennis, Basketball, Softball

From Woodbridge High School:

1. Dan Bertolami, class of 1984, Track and Field
2. Michele Bresant, class of 1974, Basketball, Track and Field
3. Coach Henry Chomicki, Track and Field
4. Dr. Frank Corbo, class of 1981, Football, Baseball
5. Leonard "Buck" Jenkins, class of 1989, Basketball
6. Paul Mallas, class of 1960, Football, Track and Field
7. Andy Mc Cray, class of 1960, Track and Field
8. Robert J. Murphy, class of 1988, Wrestling
9. Bill Schoenig, class of 1977, Baseball
10. Coach Mike Yannazzo, Boys and Girls Bowling
11. 1978 Softball team –Coach was Joan Wataha. This team was the 1978 GROUP 1V STATE CHAMPIONS.



WTAAA Hall of Fame induction ceremony

Perpetual optimism is a force multiplier.

Colin Powell



PILOT PROGRAMS

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|--|-----------------------------|
| Advancing with Apple | Dance to Learn |
| College and Career Readiness Academy | Digital Classroom |
| Freshmen 2day Orientation | Graphic Design |
| Medal of Honor | P.A.C.T. |
| Pearson ReadyGen for Kindergarten | Project STEM |
| Percussion | Principles of Engineering |
| Principles of Marketing and Principles of Social Media | Sports Marketing |
| Write Steps Writing | Theatre Arts Production |
| Writers | Zaner-Bloser Strategies for |
| Team Teaching | |

REVISED & UPDATED

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| Language Arts Grade 8 | SAT/ACT Prep R, S, Honors |
| DigLit Grade 8 | Math K-1 revision |
| Math Grade 7 | Social Studies Grade 5 |
| Psychology R, S | Psychology AP |
| Science Grade 6 | Science Honors Grade 8 |
| Spanish 2 R/S | French 2 R/S |
| Spanish for Heritage Speakers Level 1 Gr 9 | Elementary Spanish Grade 2 |
| Spanish 1A & 1B | Programming 101 |
| HS Next Generation Science | Health Grade 1 |
| Guidance Elementary | Multiply Disabled |
| Guidance High School | Preschool Disabled |
| Guidance Middle School | |

SYRACUSE COURSE OFFERING

Practices of Academic Writing (WHS)
College Learning Strategies (WHS)

NJIT COURSE OFFERING

Industrial Organization and Management (approval pending)
Principles of Accounting I (approval pending)

Woodbridge Township Board of Education

John Golden
President
Term - 2016



Ezio Tamburello
Vice President
Term - 2015









Ad Hoc Committee Chairperson
Finance & Insurance Committee
Chairperson
Curriculum Committee
Negotiations Committee
Special Education Committee
Transportation Committee

Marie Anderson
Board Member
Term - 2017



Technology Committee
Chairperson
Finance & Insurance Committee
Negotiations Committee
Policy & Planning Committee
Transportation Committee

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| <p>Frank DellaPietro III <i>Board Member</i> Term - 2017</p> |  | <p>Security & School Safety Chairperson Transportation Committee Chairperson Athletics & Extracurricular Committee Personnel & Grievance Committee</p> |
| <p>Daniel Harris <i>Board Member</i> Term - 2015</p> |  | <p>Building & Grounds Committee Chairperson Cafeteria Committee Chairperson Ad Hoc Committee Policy & Planning Committee Special Education Committee</p> |
| <p>Brian Molnar <i>Board Member</i> Term - 2017</p> |  | <p>Athletics & Extracurricular Committee Chairperson Building & Grounds Committee Negotiations Committee Chairperson Personnel & Grievance Committee Security & School Safety</p> |
| <p>Brian F. Small <i>Board Member</i> Term - 2016</p> |  | <p>Personnel & Grievance Committee Chairperson Ad Hoc Committee Athletics & Extracurricular Committee Building & Grounds Committee Security & School Safety Committee</p> |

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| <p>Jonathan Triebwasser <i>Board Member</i> Term - 2016</p> |  A portrait of Jonathan Triebwasser, a man with a mustache wearing a plaid shirt, standing in front of a bookshelf and an American flag. | <p>Policy & Planning Committee Chairperson Cafeteria Committee Curriculum Committee Finance & Insurance Committee Technology Committee</p> |
| <p>Eileen Zullo <i>Board Member</i> Term - 2015</p> |  A portrait of Eileen Zullo, a woman with short brown hair and glasses wearing a black and white striped top, standing in front of a bookshelf and an American flag. | <p>Cafeteria Committee Curriculum Committee Chairperson Special Education Committee Chairperson Technology Committee</p> |

Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts.

Winston Churchill



Woodbridge Township School District

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732-602-8536

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732-602-8470

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Director of Special Services
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Visit our "Welcome Back To School" video on our district webpage at:

<http://www.woodbridge.k12.nj.us/site/default.aspx?PageID=1>